

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action of May 26, 2005 in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-6 and 9-11 as allegedly anticipated by Dal Ferro WO 02/096782. Claims 1, 7 and 8 are rejected as allegedly anticipated by Brink U.S. Patent No. 6,179,114.

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected as unpatentable over Dal Ferro in view of Isaacs U.S. Patent No. 5,865,997.

The Examiner's rejection of the claims is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

With respect to Dal Ferro, applicant asserts that Dal Ferro does not employ a groove formed in the doctor blade. It is readily apparent from inspection of a number of the drawings in Dal Ferro, for example Figure 21, that the blade holder 4 has shoulder or rabbet upon which the blade 4 rests. A shoulder or rabbet is not a groove as claimed. The present invention is designed to avoid breakaway of the blade from the blade holder which is enhanced by the present invention.

Brink U.S. Patent No. 6,179,114 provides a blade frame having a slot. However, the blade frame in Brink is not the blade holder of the present invention. The blade frame of Brink does not permit adjustments or setting of the blade with respect to the conveyor belt. On the contrary, the present invention provides adjusting means 12 which permits regulating the position of the blade within the frame 3, with respect to the plates 15 holding the elastic member 11. Accordingly, even if Brink provides a U shaped holder for the blade, it is not possible to adjust the position of the blade with respect to the conveyor belt. The present invention on the other hand provides multiple adjustments

and also provides an efficient clamping of the blade with respect to the blade holder.

With respect to Isaacs, applicant believes that Isaacs does not illustrate a groove in a U shaped cross section providing a means to secure and hold a conveyor belt scraper blade. The element of 40 referred to by the Examiner is a catch for securing the end of a spring. The Examiner's attention is directed to Figure 5 which shows the rigid L shaped member 12 having a step profile for receiving the blade 14 and a cover plate 16. The drawings in Isaacs are not particularly clear but it is believed that Isaacs does not illustrate the features cited by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully requested the Examiner reconsider his rejections of the claims, the allowance of which is earnestly solicited.

If additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account 04-2223 or credit any overpayment thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John P. DeLuca', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail.

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